

COMPARISON OF LOBBYING LAWS

	San Diego	Los Angeles	San Francisco	Sacramento	County of San Diego	State of California
Registration Fee	\$40 (§27.4010)	\$450 (§48.07(D))	\$500 (§2.110(e))	\$100 (§2.15.100)	None	\$25 (Gov't Code § 86102)
Per Client Fee	\$15 (§27.4010)	\$75 (§48.07(D))	\$75 (§2.110(e))	\$25 (§2.15.100(B))	None	none
Compensation Threshold & Required Number of Direct Communications	\$2,542 per calendar quarter and at least 1 instance of direct communication (§27.4005)	<p><u>Lobbyist</u>: \$4,000 per calendar quarter for lobbying activities and at least 1 instance of direct communication (def. of "lobbyist" §48.02)</p> <p><u>Lobbying firm</u>: \$4,000 per calendar quarter for lobbying activities so long as owner, employee, etc. qualifies as a lobbyist (def. of "lobbying firm" §48.02).</p> <p><u>Lobbyist employer</u>: (entity, other than lobbying firm, that employs in-house lobbyist): does not register, but does file quarterly reports (§48.08 (D))</p> <p><u>Major filer</u>: \$5,000 or more during calendar quarter for public relations, media relations, advertising, public outreach, research, investigation, reports, analyses, studies, or similar activities, for the purpose of influencing action (def. of "major filer" §48.028 (D))</p>	<p><u>Contract lobbyist</u>: has a contract worth at least \$3,200 to lobby during any consecutive three-month period, or 25 contacts within two consecutive months.</p> <p><u>Business lobbyist</u>: business compensates employees to lobby and employees have at least 25 contacts within 2 consecutive months.</p> <p><u>Expenditure lobbyist</u>: \$3,200 in expenditures to influence legislative or administrative action within 3 consecutive months (payments to lobbyists not included in threshold). (definitions §2.105)</p>	<p><u>Contract lobbyist</u>: \$3,200 to lobby during any consecutive three-month period.</p> <p><u>Business lobbyist</u>: business whose employees engage in 100+ hours of lobbying in any 3 month period.</p> <p><u>Expenditure lobbyist</u>: \$5,000 in expenditures in a calendar year to influence legislative or administrative action (payments to lobbyists not included in threshold) (def. of "lobbyist" §2.15.050)</p>	Any attempt to influence a County decision by making personal or telephone contact with County official (§23.102)	<p><u>Contract lobbyist</u>: \$2,000 in a calendar month for direct communication with an official or who spends 1/3 or more of the time in any calendar month, for compensation, for direct communication, with one or more officials (Reg § 18239).</p> <p><u>Lobbying firm</u>: \$5,000 and owner or employer engages in at least one direct communication (Reg § 18238.5)</p> <p><u>Lobbyist employer</u>: registers when qualified as such (by hiring a lobbyist or lobbying firm). (Reg § 18239.5)</p> <p><u>Lobbying coalition</u>: (group of 10 or more entities that hires a lobbyist): registers when qualifies as such (Reg § 18616.4)</p>

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Main Contents of Registration Form	Lobbyist info; lobbyist employer info; nature and purpose of lobbyist's employer's business; client's name; nature and purpose of client's business; description of municipal decision lobbyist retained to influence (§27.4009)	<u>Lobbyist</u> : lobbyist info; info regarding lobbying firm in which lobbyist is an owner or employee, or otherwise a letter from employer authorizing the lobbying; and name of City agency authorized to lobby. (§48.07(D)) <u>Lobbying firm</u> : firm info; name of each lobbyist in firm; each lobbyist's individual registration form; for each client paying \$250, their name, City agency being lobbied, legislation retained to lobby, letter from client authorizing lobbying. (§48.07(E))	Filer info; owner info; description of business activity; names of persons hired to lobby; names of clients, compensation received or promised; number of contacts over past 2 months; action retained to influence and the outcome sought by filer; political contributions. (§2.110(b))	<u>Contract lobbyist</u> : lobbyist info; business info; client info; nature of client's business; legislative or administrative item hired to influence; name of each person hired to lobby. <u>Business lobbyist</u> : business info; owner & employee who are lobbying info; legislative or administrative item hired to influence. <u>Expenditure lobbyist</u> : business info; legislative or administrative item seeking to influence (§2.15.120)	Lobbyist info; name of entity represented; list of elective County offices the lobbyist will attempt to influence (§23.104)	<u>Contract lobbyist</u> : photograph; lobbyist info; training certification (Gov't Code § 86103). <u>Lobbying firm</u> : firm info; list of lobbyists who are owner or employees; lobbyist certification; client info and authorization; description of client's business activity and interests; list of agencies the firm will attempt to influence (Gov't Code § 86104). <u>Lobbyist employer</u> : employer info; list of lobbyists employed; lobbyist certification; nature and interests of entity; description of trade or industry (Gov't Code § 86105)
Frequency of Reporting	Quarterly (§27.4015)	Quarterly (§48.08)	Quarterly (§2.110 (d))	Quarterly (§2.15.140)	Quarterly (§23.106)	Quarterly (Gov't Code § 86117)
Activity Expenses	Payments, gifts, meals, honoraria, consulting fees, salaries to city officials, but not campaign contributions (def. of "activity expense" §27.4002)	Payments and gifts to city officials	Payments, gifts, honoraria, consulting fees, salaries, and any other economic consideration. (def. of "activity expenses" §2.105)	Payments, gifts, honoraria, consulting fees, salaries, and other forms of compensation. (def. of "activity expense" §2.15.050)	Food, drink, lodging, transportation, recreation, service, thing of value, including gift of campaign contribution (§23.106(b))	Payments, gifts, honoraria, consulting fees, salaries, and other forms of compensation, except for campaign contributions (Gov't Code § 86111)
Dollar Threshold for Reporting Activity Expenses	\$10 or more on a single occasion; \$50 or more aggregate during the reporting period (§27.4017(e))	\$25 or more (§48.08(B)(4))	\$30 or more in a consecutive three-month period (§2.110 (d)(1))	Not required. ("activity expenses is a defined term not used elsewhere in the code")	\$25 on one occasion or \$100 during quarter.	All activity expenses must be reported (Gov't Code §§ 86113(a)(1), 86114(a)(5); 86116(f))

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Quarterly Disclosure Report: Identity of Clients?	Yes. (§27.4017(c))	<u>Lobbyists</u> must disclose clients on whose behalf \$25 in activity expenses were made (§48.08(B)(4)); <u>lobbying firms</u> must disclose the above as well as each client represented during the reporting period (§48.08(C)(4), (C)(6))	Yes, for whom services were performed in previous 2 months. (§2.110(b)(2)(C)).	Yes. (§§2.15.120(A), 2.15.130)	No provision.	Yes. (Gov't Code § 86114(a)(2))
Quarterly Disclosure Report: Compensation Received	Yes, broken down into categories. (§ 27.4017(d))	Only for consulting services paid by candidate or ballot measure committee (§48.08(B)(10), (C)(13)), or from a City agency (§48.08(B)(11), (C)(14))	Yes, for lobbying services performed in previous 2 months. (§2.110(b)(2)(C)).	Only for consulting services or for services rendered to City official or City agency (§2.15.120(E))	No provision.	Yes. (Gov't Code § 86114(a)(3))
Quarterly Disclosure Report: Campaign Contributions?	None. (def. of "activity expense" §27.4002, 27.4017)	campaign contributions totaling \$100 during the calendar quarter (§48.08(B)(6), (C)(9), (D)(10)) & campaign contributions totaling \$1,000 made at behest of candidate (§48.08(B)(8), (C)(11), (D)(12))	campaign contributions totaling \$100 during the calendar quarter (§2.110(d)(2))	campaign contributions totaling \$100 during the calendar quarter (§2.15.120(D))	Yes. (§23.106(b))	campaign contributions totaling \$100 during the calendar quarter (Gov't Code §§ 86113, 86114(a)(7), 86116(g))
Quarterly Disclosure Report: Identity of City Official?	Those benefiting from an activity expense (§27.4017(f))	Those benefiting from \$25 or more in activity expenses (§48.08(B)(4), (C)(6), (D)(8)); those receiving \$100 in contributions (§48.08(B)(6), (C)(9), (D)(10)); those benefiting from fundraising (§48.08(B)(7), (C)(10), (D)(11)); and those at whose behest \$1,000 was made in contributions (§48.08(B)(8), (C)(12), (D)(13))	Yes. (§2.110(d)(3)(D); §2.110(d)(4)(C); §2.110(d)(5)(8)).	No provision.	Yes. (§23.106(b))	Those benefiting from activity expenses (Gov't Code §§ 86113(a)(1), 86114(a)(5); 86116(f))
Separate Report for Fundraising Activity?	No provision.	24 hour reporting for fundraising activities resulting in contributions exceeding \$15,000 for Council, and \$35,000 for Citywide offices w/in past 12 months must be disclosed (§48.08.7)	No provision.	No provision.	No provision.	No provision.

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Lobbyist include business owner?	Yes. (def. of “in house lobbyist” §27.4002)	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §48.02)	No express provision, but owner could be an expenditure lobbyist (§2.105)	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(B))	No express provision, but owner could be an lobbyist (§23.102)	No, unless the owner spends 1/3 of his or her time having direct communication to influence legislative action (Reg. 18239)
Exemption for public officials?	Yes. (§27.4004(a))	Yes. (§48.03(A))	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(A))	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(1))	Yes. (§23.103(2))	Yes. (Cal. Gov’t Code § 86300(a))
Exemption for media?	Yes. (§27.4004(b))	Yes. (§48.03(B))	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(B))	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(2))	No provision	Yes. (Cal. Gov’t Code § 86300(b))
Exemption for submitting competitive bid?	Yes. (§27.4004(c)(1))	Yes, but exemption does not generally apply to persons influencing Mayor, City Council, or their staffs. (§48.03(D))	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(A))	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(5))	Not specifically, but exemption exists for only sending written communication to an officer or employee (§23.103(1))	No provision.
Exemption for submitting response to RFP or RFQ?	Yes. (§27.4004(c)(2))	Yes, but exemption does not generally apply to persons influencing Mayor, City Council, or their staffs. (§48.03(D))	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(H))	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(5))	Not specifically, but exemption exists for only sending written communication to an officer or employee (§23.103(1))	No provision.
Exemption for interview for RFP or RFQ?	Yes. (§27.4004(c)(3))	Yes, but exemption does not generally apply to persons influencing Mayor, City Council, or their staffs. (§48.03(D))	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(H))	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(5))	No provision	No provision.
Exemption for negotiating contract after being selected?	Yes. (§27.4004(c)(4))	Yes, but exemption does not generally apply to persons influencing Mayor, City Council, or their staffs. (§48.03(D))	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(O))	No provision.	No provision	No provision.
Exemption for making request for advice or information?	Yes. (def. of “municipal decision” §27.4002)	Yes. (def. of “municipal legislation” §48.02)	Yes, so long as the request does not include attempt to influence decision (§2.105(d)((1)(J))	No provision.	Not specifically, but exemption exists for only sending written communication to an officer or employee (§23.103(1))	No provision.
Exemption for submitting petition for legislative or administrative action?	No express exemption, but could fall within exclusion for “direct communication” (§27.4002)	No provision.	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(I))	No express exemption, but could fall within exemption for “lobbyist” (§2.15.050(D)(4))	Not specifically, but exemption exists for only sending written communication to an officer or employee (§23.103(1))	No provision.

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Exemption for attorneys involved in litigation?	Yes. (def. of “municipal decision” §27.4002)	No provision.	Yes (for any service that can be performed only by an attorney). (§2.105(d)((1)(D)))	No provision.	Yes. (§23.103(3))	No provision.
Exemption for ministerial actions?	Yes. (def. of “municipal decision” §27.4002)	Yes. (def. of “municipal legislation” §48.02(2))	No provision.	No provision.	No provision	Yes (Gov’t Code §§ 82004, 86111(b))
Exemption for establishing or administering CBA or MOU with union?	Yes. (def. of “municipal decision” §27.4002)	Yes, but exemption does not apply to actions by Mayor, City Council, or staffs. (def. of “municipal legislation” §48.02(3))	No provision.	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050)	Yes. (§23.103(4))	No provision.
Exemption for management decisions relating to working conditions under CBA or MOU?	Yes. (def. of “municipal decision” §27.4002)	Yes, but exemption does not apply to actions by Mayor, City Council, or staffs. (def. of “municipal legislation” §48.02(3))	No provision.	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(7))	Yes. (§23.103(4))	No provision.
Exemption for appearing at public meeting?	Yes. (def. of “direct communication” §27.4002)	No provision.	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(C)))	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(4))	Yes. (§23.103(1))	Yes, for administrative meetings (Reg. 18239)
Exemption for responding to City enforcement action?	Yes. (def. of “direct communication” §27.4002)	No provision.	No provision.	No provision	No provision	Yes, for administrative actions (Reg. 18239)
Exemption for compensation based only on reimbursement of meals, travel?	Yes. (def. of “compensation” §27.4002)	Yes. (§48.03(C))	No provision.	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(3))	No provision	Yes. (Reg. 18239)
Exemption for matters relating to Civil Service Board/Comm.?	No.	Yes. (def. of “municipal legislation” §48.02(3))	No provision.	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(7))	No provision	No provision.
Exemption for responding to subpoena or official request?	Yes. (def. of “direct communication” §27.4002)	No provision.	Yes (if made available for public review) (§2.105(d)((1)(F), (G)))	Yes. (def. of “lobbyist” §2.15.050(D)(6))	No provision	Exemption for providing purely technical data or analysis (Reg. 18239(d)(3)(A))

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Exemption for employees of a 501(c)(3) organization providing services to the indigent?	No provision.	Yes. (§48.03(E),(F))	No provision.	No provision.	No provision	No provision.
Exemption for making a speech on radio/tv?	No provision.	No provision.	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(E))	No provision.	No provision	No provision
Exemption for making appearance before City officer regarding improvement district assessment?	No provision.	No provision.	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(K))	No provision.	No provision	No provision.
Exemption for expert employed by lobbyist to give info to City	No provision	No provision	Yes. (§2.105(d)((1)(L))	No provision	Yes. (§23.103(5))	Exemptions for administrative testimony or purely technical data or analysis (Regs. 18239(a)(1) and 18239(d)(3)(A))
Exemption for church or religious society to protect right to practice religion	No provision	No provision	No provision	No provision	No provision	Yes. (Cal. Gov't Code § 86300(c))
Campaign Contribution Ban	No provision	No provision	No provision	No provision	Yes, for officeholders and candidates the lobbyist has indicated on registration that he or she will attempt to influence. (§23.109)	No provision